**The history of Invention**

**Invention history started when mankind first solved problems with his brain. In ancient times, even the simplest tools did not yet exist and man's problems were directly related to survival. Once the basic problems of survival had been solved, man turned to inventions that helped him connect and understand the world around him. Then man discovered the benefits of machinery. Next, inventions related to electricity dominated the new discoveries. Now, electrical machines, or computers, are a dominant source of invention.**

**Basic Needs - Food, Clothing and Shelter**

**Invention history started with the simplest tools designed to help mankind survive. Hunting tools like spears, bows and arrows, knives, and clothing helped keep people fed and warm. Drawings and trail markings helped people communicate important information about hunting and traveling. Agriculture led to farming tools, containers like clay pots and woven baskets, and time tracking systems for keeping better track of the seasons.**

**Knowledge And Understanding - The Invention Of Knowledge**

**With the basic needs met by farming, housing, hunting and livestock, the history of invention turned a corner and people were able to spend more time communicating and trying to understand the world around them. Laws and other similar inventions were created to control people's behavior. Measuring tools like calendars, measuring sticks, and plumb bobs were created to help in construction and farming. The beginnings of chemistry were in full swing as people discovered new metals and other materials and learned to work with them.**

**Machine Age - The Labor Savers**

**Once people understood basic tools and learned to work with them, invention history could go to the next level. In the machine age, people learned to have tools work together instead of being worked directly by people. Levers and springs and wheels working together can make watches, or simple vehicles. Wheels and belts and hammers working together can quickly manufacture items. Machines automated manufacturing, travel, and measuring. Some believe that the invention of machines even helped get rid of slavery!**

**Electricity - The Magic Force**

**While people had always known about electricity from lightning and static electricity, it was never understood or harnessed in invention history until people started making machines. Once people started making machines, they learned how to create and use electricity to make machines better. Eventually, they learned to make machines with no moving parts that functioned only through electricity. Radios, measuring devices, light bulbs, and electric motors took machines to a whole new level of function, efficiency, and power.**

**Computers - The Mind Tool**

**The history of computer inventions started out with slide rules, abacuses and mechanical adders. Then came punch cards and electromechanical accounting machines. Next it was discovered that electrical circuits could be used to perform simple calculations. Eventually, electric machines that could think were discovered and the first computers were born. Vast mainframes followed. A real disruptive innovation came in January 1975. Popular Electronics magazine introduced the Altair 8800. It was the first mini/microcomputer. Since then people have been inventing new tools, devices, and systems using computers very rapidly. Another disruptive innovation was the invention of the internet. All the computers in the world could potentially be connected to each other. This vast interconnectivity of computers and human beings has led to a very fertile ground for new innovation.**

**Summary**

**This short synopsis of invention history has discussed the major milestones. We are now in a new era of the history of invention. In no previous time in history has invention been so quick and effective. Who knows what is next?**

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* Reference: <http://www.new-inventions-success.com>